

Book from Red China

El Universal, 1 May 1962
Mexico City

STALIN, GREAT LEADER AND TEACHER

CPYRGHT

By Angelo /illegible/

The newspaper "Il Messaggero," a widely circulated daily in Rome, published on the 28th of last March a report from Moscow sent in by its correspondent in the Soviet capital. The article mentioned a "little work" entitled "Jose Vissarionovich Stalin: Our Great Leader and Teacher." This is a very short book, a pocket booklet, one of the thousand and one editions of intelligent and significant propaganda sent all over the world by the publishing house called "Foreign Language Press" in the capital of Communist China.

The booklet to which I refer appears in various languages.... Spanish...../illegible/.

According to the Roman newspaper, which I have drawn on to write the present commentary, Chieftain Mao's propaganda service sent the leaflet to the chiefs and the principal leaders of the communist parties in Asia, Africa, and Europe. Doubtless America has also been favored with this small literary work eulogizing a figure who was "leader of leaders" in the imperial Marxist world.

The homage to Stalin attained greater formality last December because of the anniversary of the birth of the vanished chief... /illegible/. The main argument in Stalin's favor is that he dedicated himself body and soul to the proletarian revolution and that he was the implacable foe of imperialism.

In the introduction to the leaflet it is stated that "on December 21, 1962, members of the communist and labor parties all over the world celebrate the 82nd anniversary of the birth of Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin, one of the greatest figures of the communist world...../illegible/. Stalin, who was boundlessly loyal to the cause of the proletarian revolution was also an implacable enemy of imperialism. He made enormous contributions to the cause of the Socialist Motherland, in promoting the international movement which contributed to the liberation of the oppressed nations, and at the same time fought tirelessly for /illegible/ peace...../illegible/..... Has any Marxist ever written that we Communists never commit errors or that it is impossible for a determined Communist to make mistakes? Is it not precisely because we Marxist-Leninists deny the existence of a "demigod" Incapable of committing error that we conduct mutual and self-criticism in the intimacy of the social life in our Party?

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Furthermore, is it conceivable that a socialist state, the first of its kind in the world, should attain the dictatorship of the proletariat without mistakes, when the system has never had the benefit of previous experiments or of precedents to guide its leaders and prevent them from falling into error?

In accordance with the teachings of Lenin, Stalin undertook the enormous task of industrializing his country, collectivizing agriculture, and thwarting the plots of the Trotskyists and the ambitious followers of Bukharin, who opposed the general line of the Party. In these battles, Stalin defended and successfully upheld a wonderful interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. For all the Socialist countries, for the working class throughout the world, for all the oppressed nations, Stalin's fruitful contribution which developed the theories of Marxism-Leninism had an indelible effect."

These statements and others no less exalted of endless praise of Stalin are to be read in the "Little Work" mentioned by the Italian newspaper "Il Messaggero". The leaflet, which presents Stalin as "our great leader and teacher" is doubtless more than an episode in Khrushchev's anti-Stalinist struggle and the fervent praise which the Communists of China and other regions render to Stalin on the 82nd anniversary of his birth.

According to the Roman newspaper, Red China censures the manner in which relations between the Kremlin and the West are developing, out of the fear that coexistence and tolerance may injure the Socialist bloc. It is clear that China and its Stalinist allies believe that there is danger that coexistence may lead Moscow away from a policy of support of the national liberation movements. At the same time the leaflet shows a frank attitude of rebellion against the severe and inflexible denunciations of Stalin's errors made at the Twentieth Congress of the Communist parties of the USSR and given increased momentum in the Twenty-Second Congress. They are two formidable opponents, Mao and Khrushchev, according to "Il Messaggero."

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RED CHINA IN MEXICO

With the shrewdness, patience and tenacity characteristic of Orientals, the Government of People's China (Communist) is carrying out a vast propaganda program covering all the Latin American countries; including, of course, our own, where there exist distributing centers for Peking-edited books, leaflets, bulletins, on the Communism of Mao Tse-tung.

There are also "Groups of Friends of People's China" fronted by Mexican citizens who follow the instructions of those directing this propaganda. The latter never appear publicly themselves.

This Red propaganda hails Stalin as the greatest figure in international Communism and combats Khrushchev's Communism, thus demonstrating the increasingly deep rift between the Reds of Peking and those of the Kremlin.

In some countries, Red Chinese penetration is more extensive than in others, as, for example in Brazil, where Chinese propaganda is greater and more effective.

It is followed by Cuba, which country, after the take-over by Fidel Castro, found itself invaded by tons of little books on the Chinese People's Revolution, and later by the arrival of industrial, agricultural, and military technicians, etc., which provoked resentment on the part of the Russians, who desire absolute control over the island.

Great quantities of leaflets and bulletins from People's China are now being distributed in Mexico, and meetings are being held on the progress and advantages of the Chinese Communist system, although this type of propaganda is not carried out very overtly, at least for the moment.

It appears that the Chinese tactic is to combat the Soviet system by elevating the figure of Stalin and denigrating Khrushchev.

A booklet, the back and front covers of which we show here, deals only with the virtues of Stalin and cites parts of speeches and writings of the Russians themselves only when they treat Stalin as Marxism's greatest figure.

This leaflet was printed in Peking in January 1962 and was sent to Latin American countries including Mexico.

In addition to this propaganda, Chinese residents of Mexico are receiving circulars from the Committee of Overseas Chinese Affairs asking for 15 tons of fertilizer or the equivalent in money to secure the release of relatives who are now in Communist China.

In the document which we show on these pages, the Government of the People's Republic of China states the following: Any member of a Chinese family residing abroad who wishes to leave the country to join his family overseas should apply directly to the Committee of Overseas Chinese Affairs for the required permit, showing proof that the family member abroad is economically able to assume responsibility for him. This proof of economic solvency consists of 15 tons of fertilizer or its equivalent in cash. This document also states that an overseas Chinese family desiring to get a relative out of China should apply directly to the Committee, which will reply quickly, giving all the details of the operation, etc.

In other words, in order for a Chinese living in People's China to leave the country, the Peking government must receive 15 tons of fertilizer or the equivalent of \$15,000 (in the case of the U.S.). In other countries the price is probably higher.

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In addition to this propaganda, Chinese residents of Mexico are receiving circulars from the Committee of Overseas Chinese Affairs asking for 16 tons of fertilizer or the equivalent in money to secure the release of relatives who are now in Communist China.

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